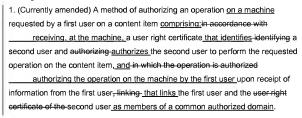**Amendments to the Claims**:

A listing of the entire set of pending claims (including amendments to the claims, if any) is submitted herewith per 37 CFR 1.121. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of authorizing an operation <u>on a machine</u> requested by a first user on a content item <u>comprising:</u>~~in accordance with~~

<u>receiving, at the machine,</u> a user right certificate <u>that identifies</u> ~~identifying~~ a second user and ~~authorizing~~ <u>authorizes</u> the second user to perform the requested operation on the content item, <u>and</u> ~~in which the operation is authorized~~

<u>authorizing the operation on the machine by the first user</u> upon receipt of information from the first user<u>,</u> ~~linking~~ <u>that links</u> the first user and the ~~user right certificate of the~~ second user <u>as members of a common authorized domain</u>.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, ~~in which~~ <u>wherein</u> the information comprises one or more domain certificates identifying the first and second users as members of the ~~same~~ <u>authorized</u> domain.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, ~~in which~~ <u>wherein</u> the one or more domain certificates comprise a first domain certificate identifying the first user as a member of ~~an~~ <u>the</u> authorized domain, and a second domain certificate identifying the second user as a member of the authorized domain.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, ~~in which~~ <u>wherein</u> the one or more domain certificates comprise a single certificate identifying the first and second users as members of the authorized domain.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, ~~in which~~ <u>wherein</u> the operation comprises at least one of: a rendering of the content item, a recording of the content item, a transfer of the content item and a creation of a copy of the content item.

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, comprising receiving a content right containing necessary information for performing the requested operation on the content item, the user right certificate of the second user authorizing the second user to perform the requested operation using the content right.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6, ~~in which~~ wherein the operation is not authorized if the content right does not identify the authorized domain.

8. (Currently amended) A device arranged to perform an operation requested by a first user on a content item comprising: ~~in accordance with~~

    a receiving unit that is configured to receive a user right certificate ~~identifying~~ that identifies a second user and ~~authorizing~~ authorizes the second user to perform the requested operation on the content item, ~~being arranged~~ and

    an authorization unit that is configured to authorize the operation upon receipt of information from the first user ~~linking~~ that links the first user and the ~~user right certificate of the~~ second user as members of a common authorized domain.

9. (Currently amended) The device of claim 8, ~~in which~~ wherein the information comprises one or more domain certificates identifying the first and second users as members of the ~~same~~ authorized domain.

10. (Currently amended) The device of claim 9, ~~in which~~ wherein the one or more domain certificates comprise a first domain certificate identifying the first user as a member of ~~an~~ the authorized domain, and a second domain certificate identifying the second user as a member of the authorized domain.

11. (Currently amended) The device of claim 9, ~~in which~~ wherein the one or more domain certificates comprise a single certificate identifying the first and second users as members of the authorized domain.

12. (Original) The device of claim 9, being arranged to receive an identifier for the first user from an identification device and to perform the operation if the received identifier matches the identification of the first user in the one or more domain certificates.

13. (Original) The device of claim 8 or 9, being arranged to receive a content right containing necessary information for performing the requested operation on the content item, the user right certificate of the second user authorizing the second user to perform the requested operation using the content right.

14. (Currently amended) The device of claim 11, ~~in which~~ wherein at least a portion of the content right is encrypted using an encryption key for which a corresponding decryption key is available to the device.

15. (Currently amended) The device of claim 13, ~~in which~~ wherein the content right is provided with a digital signature allowing verification of the authenticity of the content right.

16. (Original) The device of claim 15, being arranged to perform the operation if the digital signature can be verified successfully using a digital certificate associated with an authorized content provider.

17. (Original) The device of claim 15, being arranged to perform the operation if the digital signature can be verified successfully using a digital certificate associated with a particular device.

18. (Original) The device of claim 15, being arranged to refuse to perform the operation if the digital signature cannot be verified successfully using a digital certificate associated with an authorized content provider and a digital watermark associated with the authorized content provider is present in the content item.

19. (Previously presented) The device of claim 15, being arranged to extract a public key from the content right and to use the extracted public key in determining whether the operation is authorized.

20. (Original) The device of claim 13, being arranged to determine a robust fingerprint for the content item and to refuse to perform the operation if the determined robust fingerprint does not match a robust fingerprint comprised in the content right.

21. (Previously presented) The device of claim 9, being arranged to receive a content right containing necessary information for performing the requested operation on the content item, the user right certificate of the second user authorizing the second user to perform the requested operation using the content right, and to refuse to perform the operation if the authorized domain is not identified by the content right.

22-30 (Canceled)

31. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, comprising receiving a content right containing necessary information for performing the requested operation on the content item, the user right certificate of the second user authorizing the second user to perform the requested operation using the content right.

32. (Previously presented) The device of claim 13, being arranged to extract a public key from the content right and to use the extracted public key in determining whether the operation is authorized.